

OPEN SPACE UPDATES

Once again a bond proposal for the protection of open space will be brought to the voters of Fremont for their consideration. Warrant Article 5 is to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million dollars (1,000,000) for the purchase of land or conservation easements for the purpose of protecting the Town's special places, rural character and natural resources. Passage of this bond would allow the Town to act, should there become available, parcels of land or easements that would be beneficial to the goals set by the Open Space Committee.

Passage of this bond would also allow the Town to pursue matching funding, as most grants require matching funding to be available. The entire process from start to finish includes several checks and balances, including a public hearing, to insure that the funding is being used appropriately. A copy of the process as well as the criteria used to select parcels is all part of the public record and can be viewed by any interested citizen at the Town Hall and is also available on the Town's website at www.Fremont.nh.gov by clicking on the Open Space page.

The Board of Selectman and the Budget Committee have recommended the appropriation.

Study after study has shown that preserving open space is far more cost effective than development is. Most of the surrounding towns have already passed general bonds for this very purpose and have been successful in preserving land within their respective towns.

The Open Space Committee meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public. For more information, please contact Janice O'Brien at 679-5545 j-obrien@comcast.net or Kenn Jones at 679-5573 kjonze@gmail.com.

PTA UPDATES

Thanks to everyone who came to your February meeting, it was nice to see so many faces both new faces and returning faces. Just a reminder, that everyone is welcome at our meetings. We love to have the input and the discussion. Here is what's happening with PTA:

We purchased 3 Safety DVD's for the school and for the library. We wanted to make sure the DVD's were accessible to everyone in Fremont who would like to view them with their kids. We gave two to Ellis and one to the Town Library. The copies at Ellis will be in the Library and you can contact Mrs. Zarges if you would like to check them out. They should make a nice compliment to the school's safety program.

March: Spring Fundraiser - to help raise money for Field day and for next years artists in residence program will begin on Monday, March 6th. Please watch for the packet to come home with your child on Monday. The fundraiser will run until March 20th. Spring Book Fair - will begin on Monday, March 27 and run through Friday, March 31. This is a buy one get one free book fair. This is a great time to buy presents.

April: We are hosting an indoor yard sale on April 1st from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at Ellis School. We know the winter gets to be long for everyone who likes to hit the yard sales in the warmer months. Watch for more information.

Field Day meetings have started. We had one January 30, February 15th, and the next one is scheduled for March 13th at 7:00 pm at the Ellis School Library. If you signed up to volunteer for field day, please be expecting a call to ask for your help again. Everyone is welcome at the field day meetings. We need everyone's help to get it organized and then to set up, run it, and break it down on the day of the event. Field day is scheduled for Friday, June 9th with a rain date of Monday, June 12. We hope to see you at the next meeting.

Reminder: Next PTA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8 at 9:00 am at the Town Library. Everyone is welcome.

PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a public hearing held at 8:00 pm on Thursday March 9, 2006 at the Fremont Town Hall to consider the petition submitted for the Town Meeting warrant to combine the operations of the Fremont Fire Department and the Fremont Rescue Squad; and hear any public comment related thereto.

The public is welcome to attend to comment on the process, as are all members of the departments and the petitioners.

FHS TO HOST ISLES OF SHOALS SLIDE PRESENTATION

The Fremont Historical Society will hold their first meeting of the year on Tuesday, March 21st beginning at 7:30 pm at the Fremont Public Library Community Room. A special slide show presentation on the Isles of Shoals, located nine miles off the coast of New Hampshire will be given by Fremont's own Jean Ragonese - a member of the Isles of Shoals Historic Research Association.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about the astounding history and scenery that surround these nine intriguing islands which started out as a major fishing center. Four of these nine islands belong to NH and were known as the Town of Gosport between 1705 and 1876. The other five islands belong to the State of Maine. Learn more about Celia Thaxter, famous 19th century author, as well as her home and gardens on Appledore Island; the major hotels on Star Island; the infamous 1873 Axe Murder by Louis Wagner; Miss Underhill's Chair; Betty Moody's Cave; and so much more. This will be a very enjoyable and informative program and the public is welcome to attend this FREE program. Refreshments will be served. For further info, please call FHS President Matthew Thomas at 895-4032.

DOG LICENSES

In accordance with RSA 466:1 every owner or keeper of a dog 4 months old or over shall obtain a license from the Town Clerk in which the dog is kept by April 30 of each year. Failing to license or renew the dog license will subject you to a \$25 forfeiture fine in accordance with RSA 466:3. Regardless of when the dog is acquired, the owner or keeper **MUST** obtain a license. To license your dog, you must have a current rabies certificate indicating when the rabies vaccination will expire. For your convenience, you can obtain a dog license by mail. In addition to the licensing fees, there is a \$1.00 mailing fee. Send a copy of your dog's current rabies certificate and a check made payable to the Town of Fremont, using the fee scale below. 2006 licenses are now available.

Fees are as follows:

Male/Female: \$10.00

Male (neutered)/Female (spayed): \$7.50

Puppies (3 to 7 Months): \$7.50

Owner over 65: \$2.00 for first dog, subsequent dogs regular fee
ADD \$1.00 additional fee for mailing - (Mail-ins ENCOURAGED)
Send information and the proper fee to: Fremont Town Clerk
PO Box 120, Fremont, NH 03044-0120

DRIVEWAY PAVING PERMIT

The permit form to pave or repave your existing driveway is now up on the town's website at www.Fremont.nh.gov; on the Building Inspector's page. If you are getting ready for a spring paving, of your driveway, contact Guerwood Holmes, and get a permit submitted. Areas adjacent to the Town's right-of-way must be checked for drainage and safety access.

You can reach Guerwood Holmes at 300-7429.

THE LAND USE BOARDS ARE LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS.

Contact Meredith Bolduc if you have any interest in becoming involved! FremontPZ@comcast.net or 895-2226 x 17.